

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 2-10 and 12 and cancels claims 1, 11 and 13-18. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 2-10 and 12.

Claims 1, 7 and 8 stand objected to due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 1 of the Office Action. As indicated above, claim 1 was canceled. Therefore, this objection with respect to claim 1 is rendered moot. Amendments were made to claims 7 and 8 to overcome the objections noted by the Examiner. Therefore, this objection with respect to claims 7 and 8 is overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 13-15, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Walton (U.S. Patent No. 7,020,110); and claims 9 and 16 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Walton. As indicated above, claims 1, 11 and 13-18 were canceled. Therefore, these rejections with respect to claims 1, 11 and 13-18 are rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §102(e) and 35 USC §103(a) rejections of claims 1, 11 and 13-18 is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 1, 11 and 13-18 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 1, 11 and 13-18 are taught or suggested by Walton. The cancellation of claims 1, 11 and 13-18 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants hereby reserve

their right to pursue the invention as set forth in claims 1, 11 and 13-18 in a continuing application.

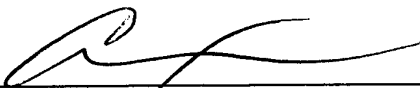
Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication in paragraph 6 of the Office Action that claims 2-6, 10 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amendments were made to claims 2-6, 10 and 12 to place them in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Also, amendments were made to claims 7-9 to make them dependent on allowable base claim 2. Therefore, claims 2-10 and 12 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 2-10 and 12 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 2-10 and 12 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.43054X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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